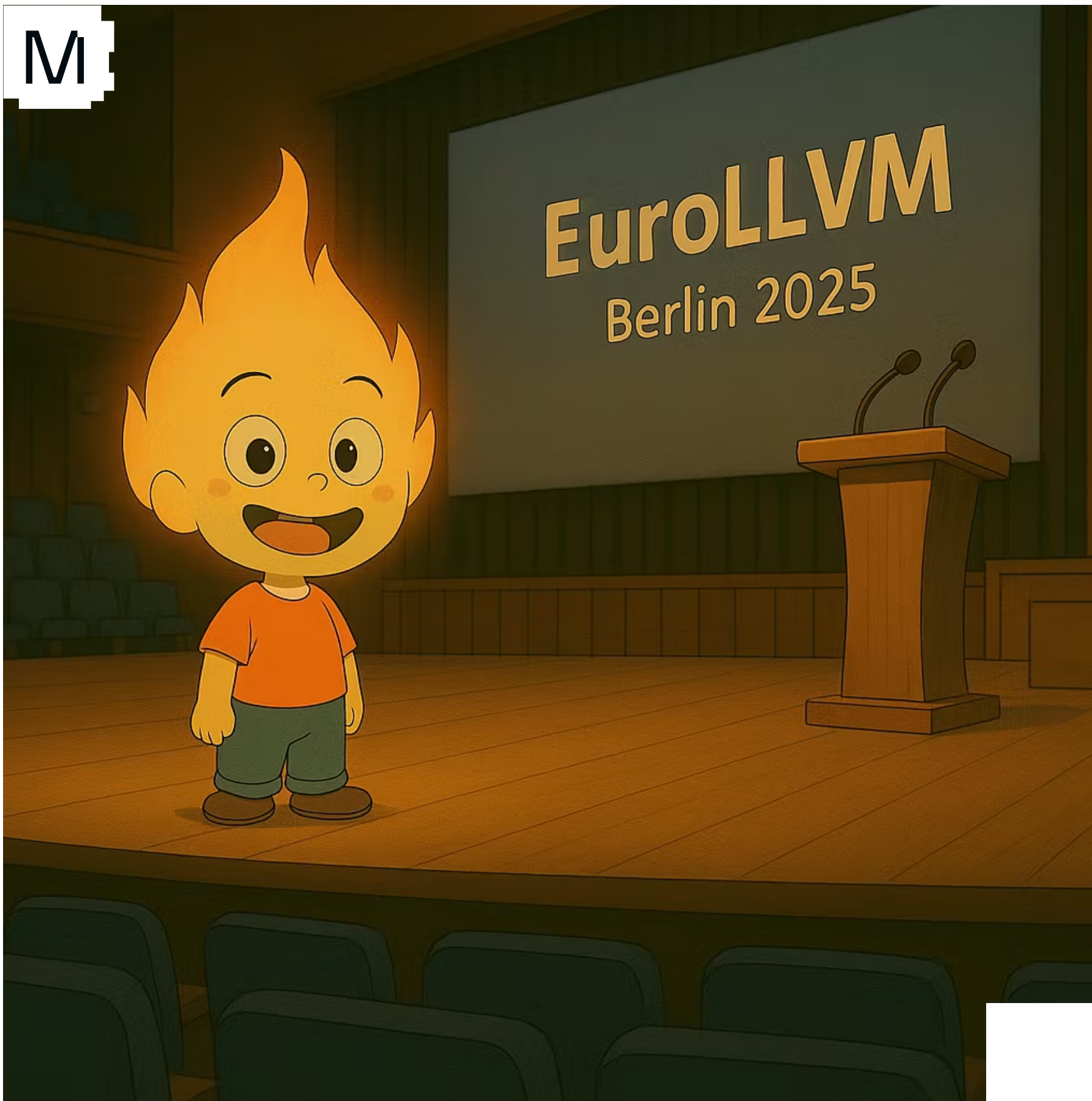


Parallelizing the LLVM Pipeline with MCLink

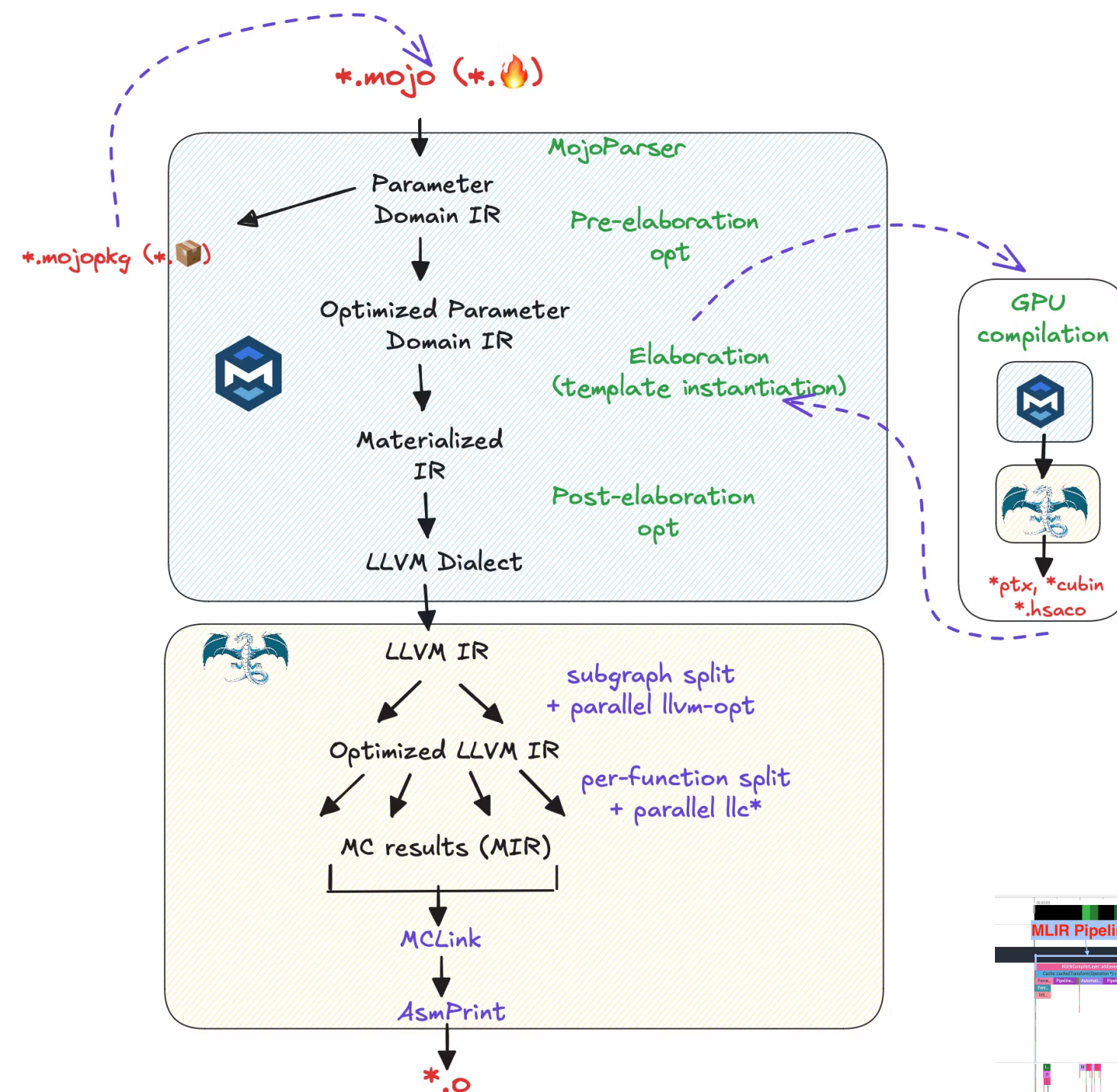
Weiwei Chen
weiwei.chen@modular.com



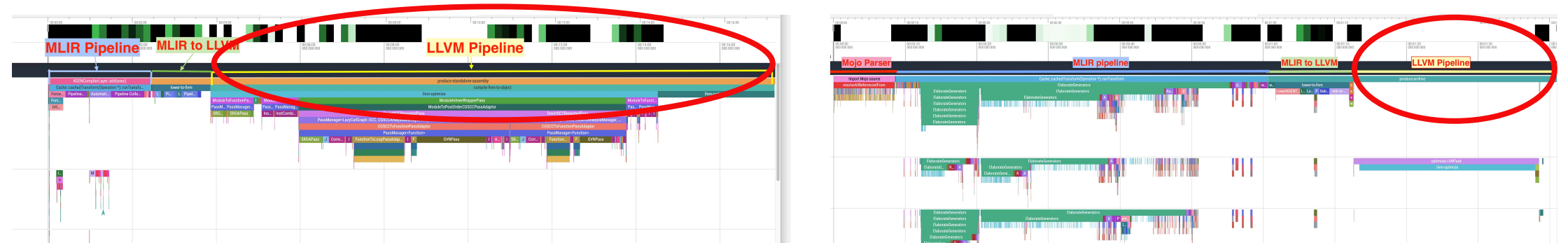
Agenda

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|----|---------------------------|
| 01 | Mojo Compilation Pipeline |
|----|---------------------------|
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|----|------------------------------|
| 02 | Parallelize LLVM Compilation |
|----|------------------------------|
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| 03 | MCLink |
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| 04 | Mojo Compilation with Parallel LLVM |
|----|-------------------------------------|
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- | | |
|----|-------------|
| 05 | Conclusions |
|----|-------------|
-

Mojo Compilation Pipeline



- Mojo compilation leverages the best of **MLIR** and **LLVM**
- Using LLVM unconventionally
 - Parallelizing LLVM pipeline.
 - Fast compilation time with performance generated code.
 - Significantly cut down LLVM pipeline time for overall mojo compilation.

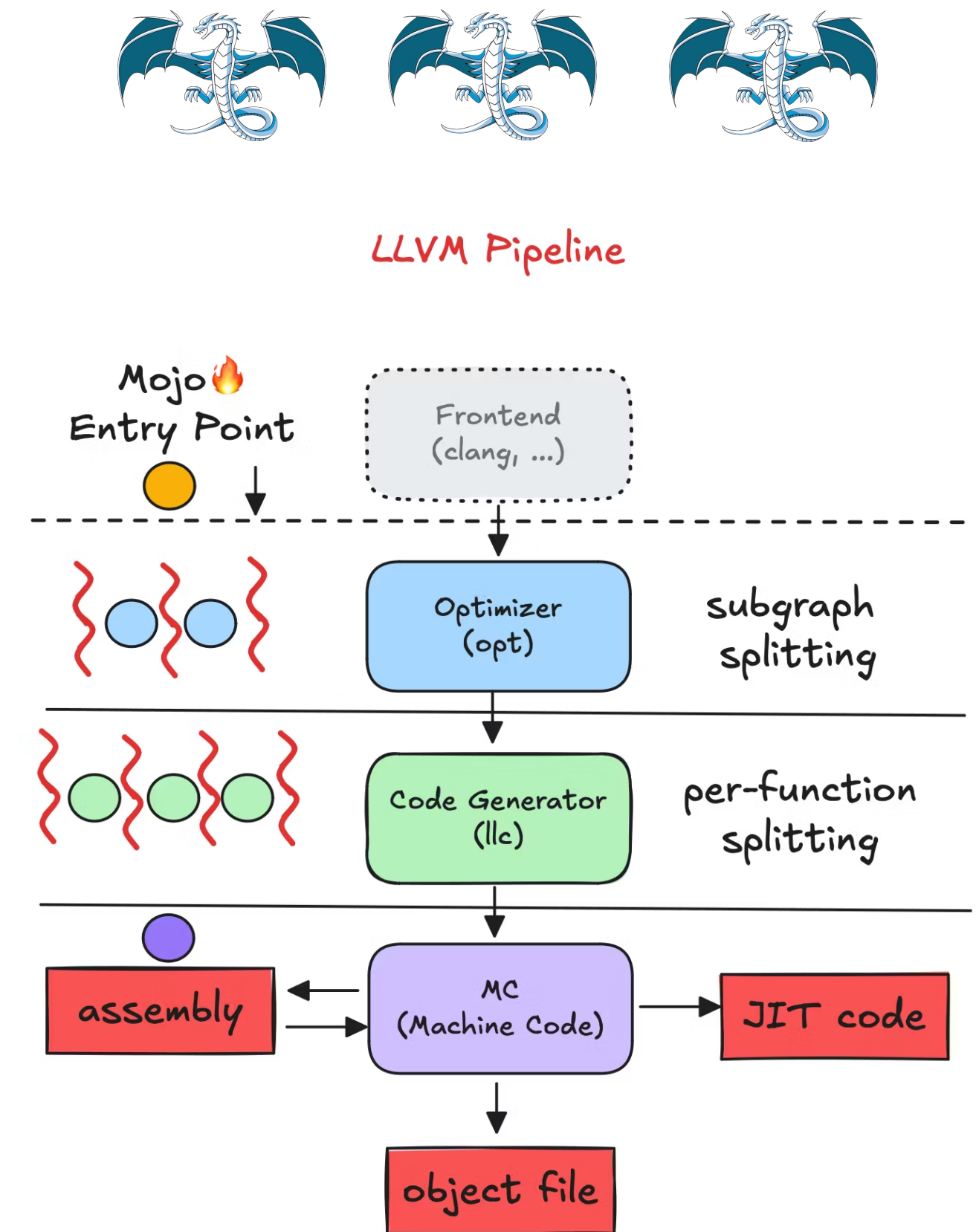


LLVM Pipeline

- LLVM is 😊:
 - Target-specific code generation.
 - GVN, Load/Store Optimization, LSR, scalar optimization, etc.
- LLVM is 😞:
 - No framework-level parallelization support to leverage multi-core machines.
 - Data structures for IR are often mutable and not thread-safe.
 - No pass manager support for running function-level pass(es) in parallel.
 - Module-level passes don't have intra-pass parallelization.
 - Weak and unpredictable loop optimizations.
 - Often bottleneck for compilation time.

Parallelize LLVM Pipeline

- Split `llvm::Module` into multiple submodules.
 - Run each module split with separate LLVM pipeline in parallel.
- Two-level splitting:
 - Subgraphs for each anchor function (externally visible) with all function on its call-graph to run LLVM optimization pipeline including IPO passes (inliner).
 - Per-function split to run codegen pipeline in parallel.
- LLVM Pipeline:
 - Optimizer pipeline: `llvm/lib/transforms`
 - Code Generation pipeline: `ISel`, `SelectDAG`, `RegAlloc`, `Machine Code opt`, etc.
 - Machine Code layer: code emission



Parallelize LLVM Pipeline

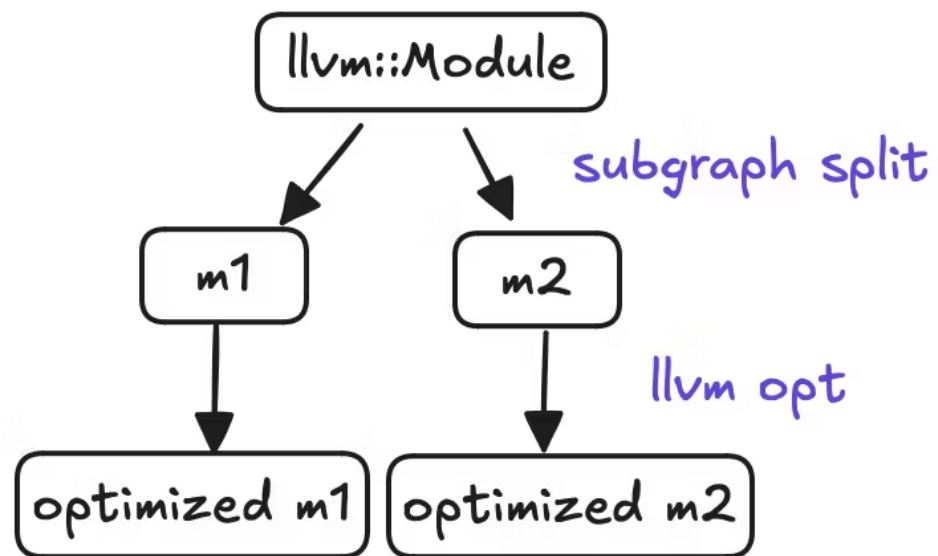


llvm::Module

; llvm::Module

```
define dso_local void @foo() #0 {  
  call void @g()  
  call void @h()  
  ret void  
}  
define dso_local void @bar() #0 {  
  call void @g()  
  call void @h()  
  ret void  
}  
define internal void @g() #1 {  
  ret void  
}  
define internal void @h() #1 {  
  ret void  
}
```

Parallelize LLVM Pipeline



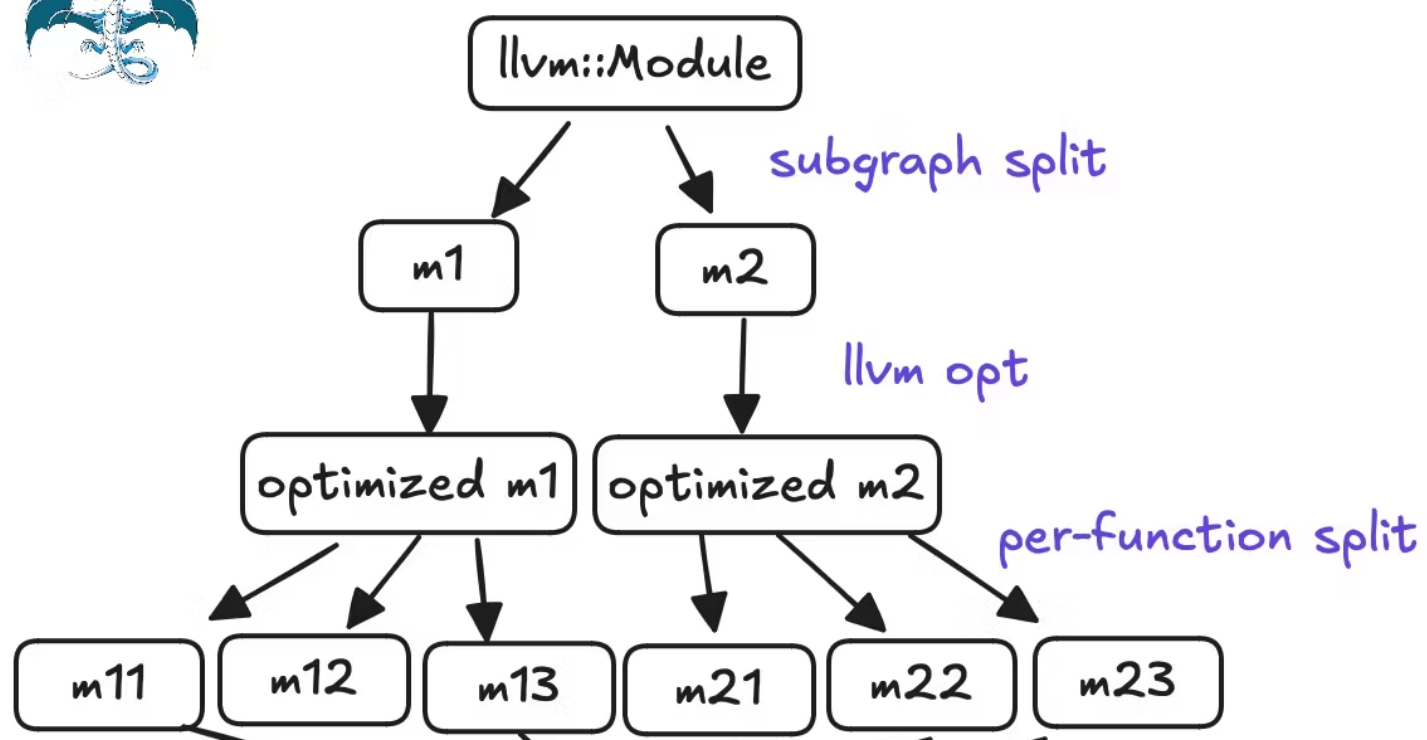
; llvm::Module - m1

```
define dso_local void @foo() #0 {  
  call void @g()  
  call void @h()  
  ret void  
}  
define internal void @g() #1 {  
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define internal void @h() #1 {  
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}
```

; llvm::Module - m2

```
define dso_local void @bar() #0 {  
  call void @g()  
  call void @h()  
  ret void  
}  
define internal void @g() #1 {  
  ret void  
}  
define internal void @h() #1 {  
  ret void  
}
```

Parallelize LLVM Pipeline



; llvm::Module - m11

```
define dso_local void @foo() #0 {  
  call void @g()  
  call void @h()  
  ret void  
}
```

```
declare void @g() #1  
declare void @h() #1
```

; llvm::Module - m21

```
define dso_local void @bar() #0 {  
  call void @g()  
  call void @h()  
  ret void  
}
```

```
declare void @g() #1  
declare void @h() #1
```

; llvm::Module - m12

```
define weak void @g() #1 {  
  ret void  
}
```

; llvm::Module - m22

```
define weak void @g() #1 {  
  ret void  
}
```

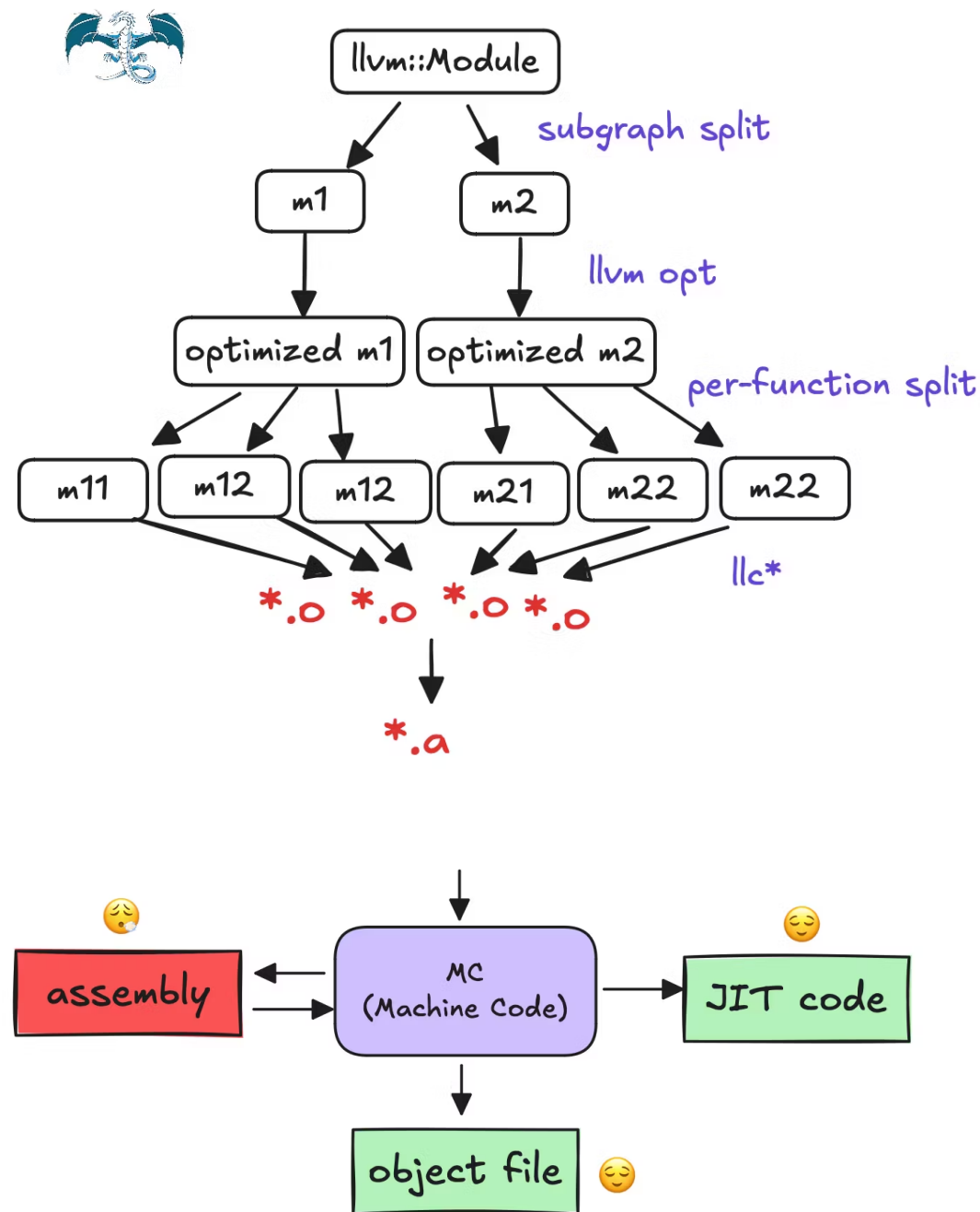
; llvm::Module - m13

```
define weak void @h() #1 {  
  ret void  
}
```

; llvm::Module - m23

```
define weak void @h() #1 {  
  ret void  
}
```

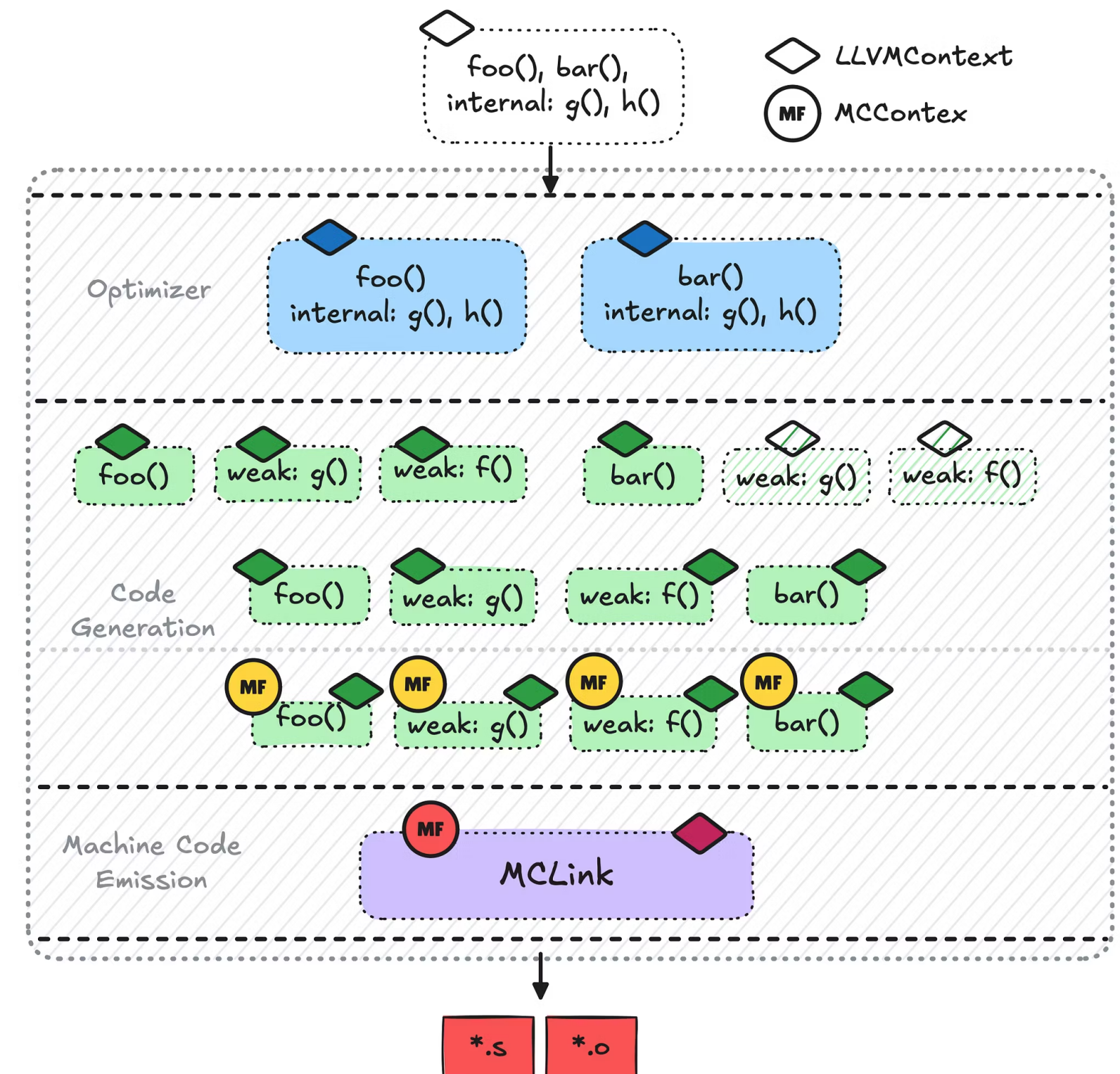
Parallelize LLVM Pipeline Code Emission



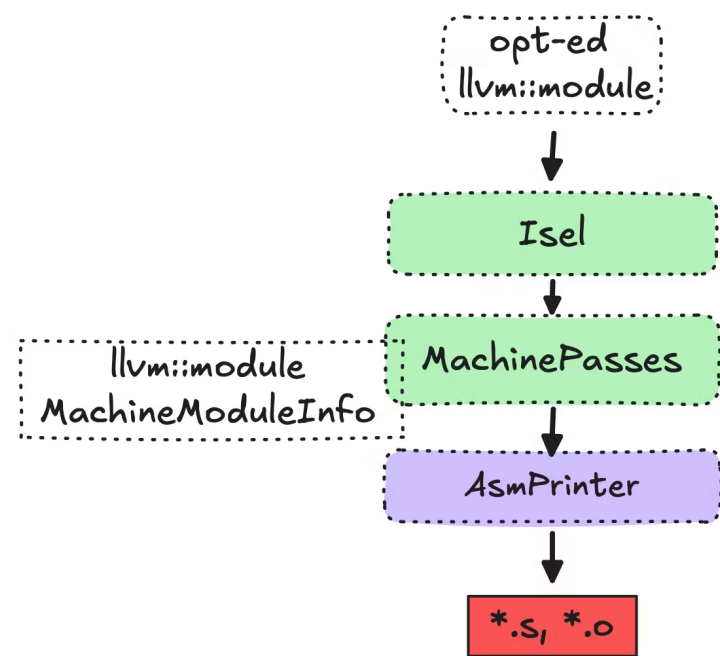
- Combine each split's codegen + code emission output
- .a archive file for binary object output (but bigger) ✓
- .a archive in buffer for JIT ✓
- Assembly output (debugging, PTX) ✗
- Can't fix symbol linkage type changes due to splitting (expose internal data structure and/or functions) ✗
- Duplicated functions 😞

Parallelize LLVM Pipeline Code Emission

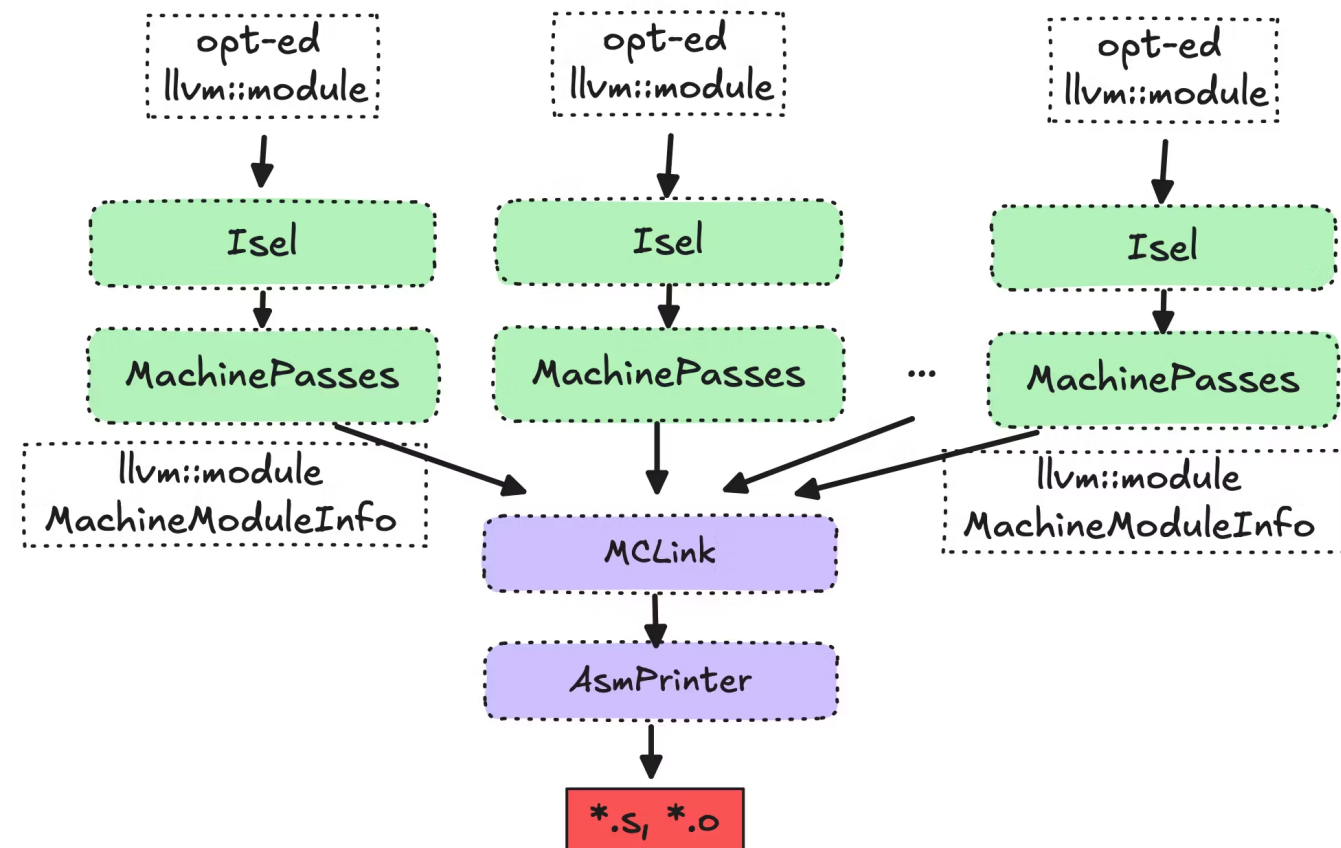
- 1 llvm::Module => 1 .o (.s)
 - Parallelization is implementation detail
 - No side-effect (symbol linkage change)
- Parallelization **maps** to multiple contexts
- MCLink **reduces** to one output



Linking at the MC level



LLVM CodeGen Pipeline

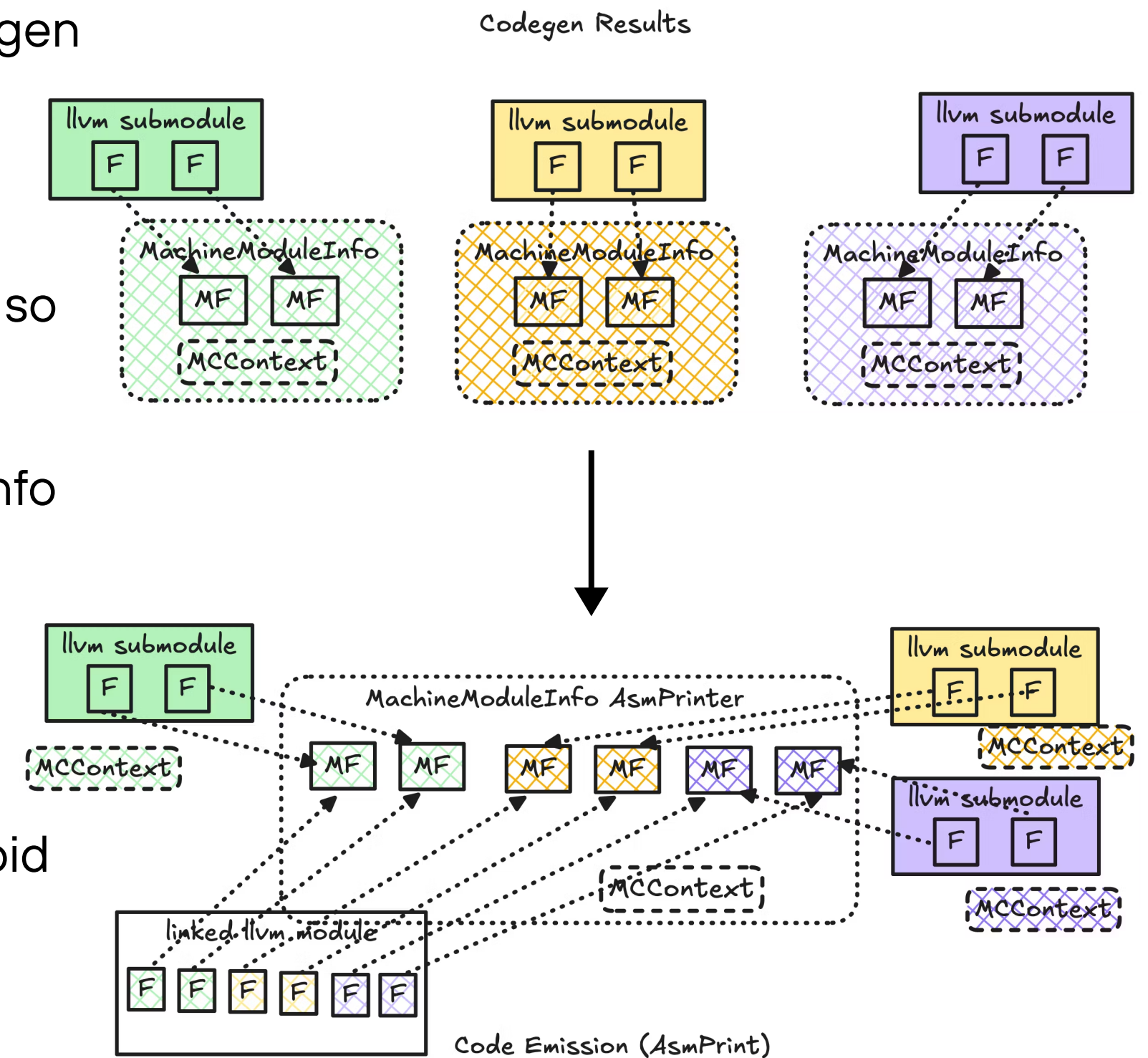


Parallel LLVM CodeGen Pipeline with MCLink

- Generate and Link MIR using `llvm::Linker` 😐
 - not quite stable?
 - YAML-based
- **MCLink** - Linker at the MC level 😊
 - Manage MC data structure for reduction
 - `ConstantPool` ID uniquing
 - X86:
 - `PICBaseSymbol` uniquing
 - `MO_ExternalSymbol` uniquing
 - Link `llvm::Module` from each split using `llvm::Linker`
 - Fix symbol linkage type
 - Reduces both `LLVMContext` and `MCContext`
 - Guide `AsmPrinter`

MCLink Implementation Details

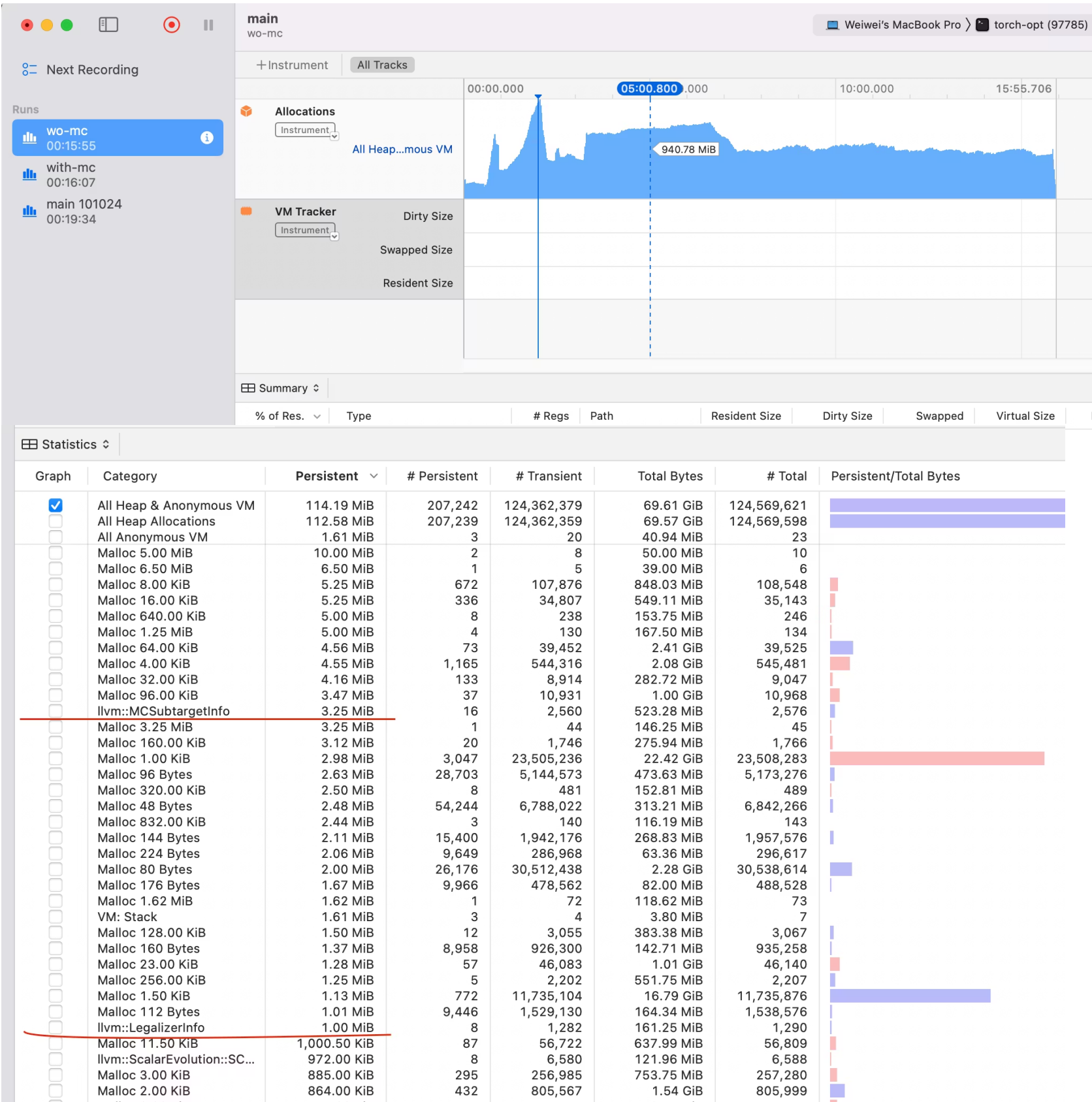
- Add *SetMachineFunctionBasePass* at the beginning of codegen pipeline to give MachineFunctions global numbering.
- Add *SyncX86SymbolTables* in AsmPrint pipeline to populate external MCSymbols to other llvm module split's MCContext so that they can be unique across all splits.
- Move MachineFunctions into AsmPrinter's MachineModuleInfo
 - Move private class member from off tree is hard.
- Workarounds for nameless variables (asan build)
 - *llvm::Linker* rename them but only local to the split.
 - Give these variable explicit name in mojo pipeline to avoid non-unique naming by *llvm::Linker*.



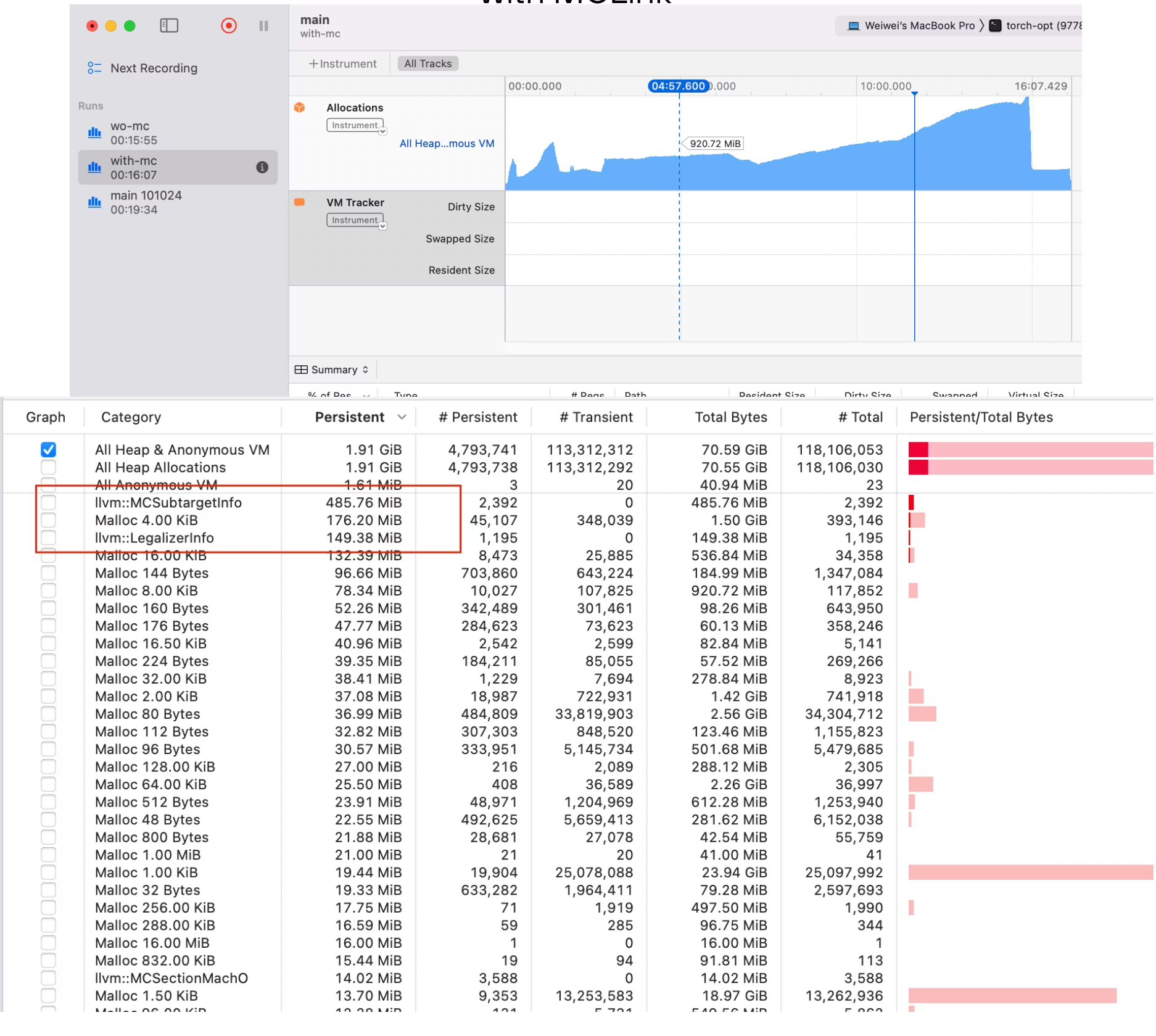
MCLink Implementation Details

Peak Memory Jump for running reset50-pytorch

without MCLink

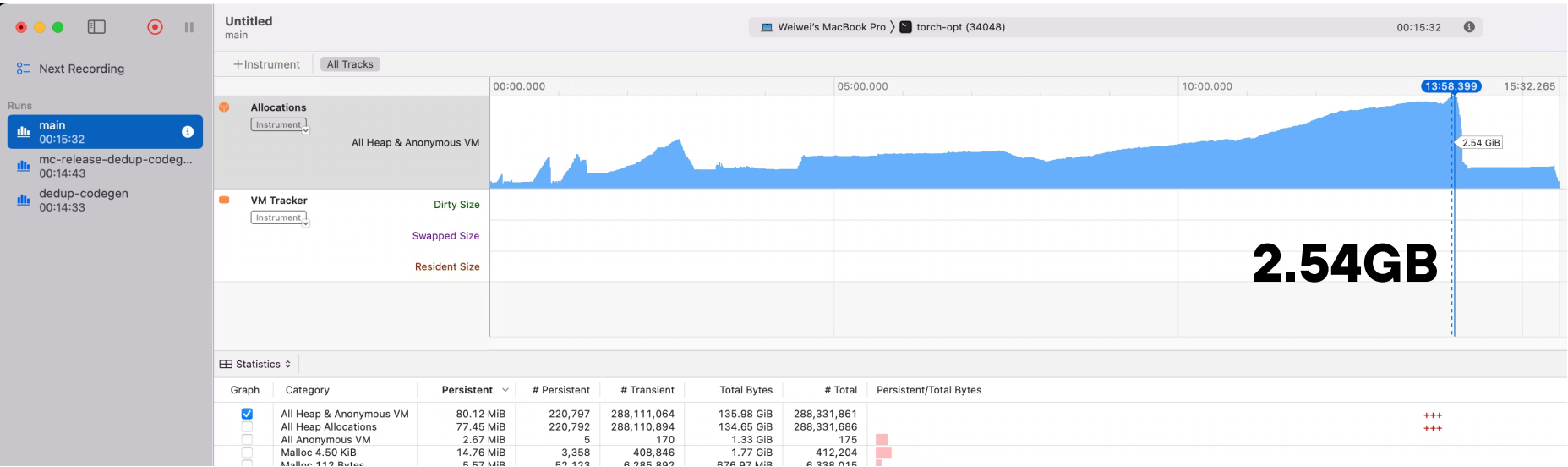


with MCLink

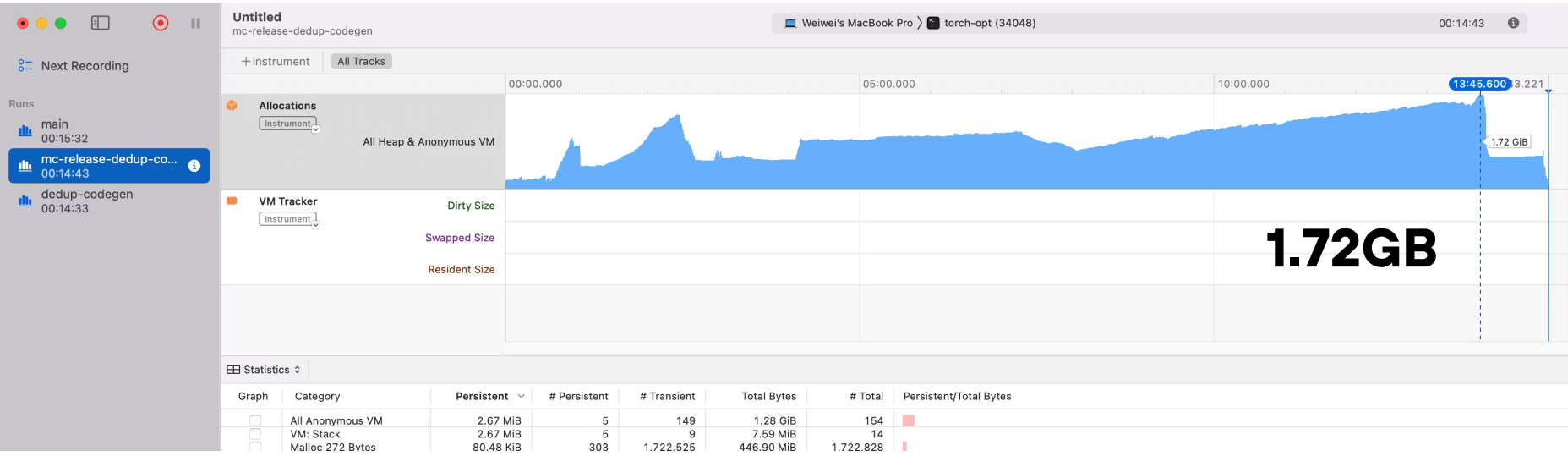


MCLink Implementation Details

- Each split has its own **Ilvm::TargetMachine** due to mutable memory variables.
- **SubtargetMap** StringMap has many copies for each split, they are all identical and only one is needed for AsmPrint.
- Release memory early before AsmPrint to reduce peak memory footprint ASAP.
- Avoid codegen duplicated functions.



without early memory release



with early memory release

Mojo Compilation with Parallel LLVM

- Measured on c5n.metal
 - Turbo boost and hyper-threading disabled
 - CPU freq pinned at 2.9GHz.

* Changes symbol linkage type at subgraph level impacts optimization pipeline codegen quality + compilation time (LLVM can be unpredictable 😞).

** LLVM pipeline workload is smaller due to efforts on grinding down IR size.

test_matmul.mojo

par subgraph	par codegen	compilation time(s)	speedup	exe time (s)
no	no	36.35	1	26.78
yes*	no	34.37	1.06	38.95*
yes	yes	31.61	1.15**	26.72

test_conv_epilogue.mojo

par subgraph	par codegen	compilation time(s)	speedup	exe time (s)
no	no	47.21	1	0.29
yes*	no	31.82	1.48	0.29*
yes	yes	37.61	1.28**	0.29

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Conclusions

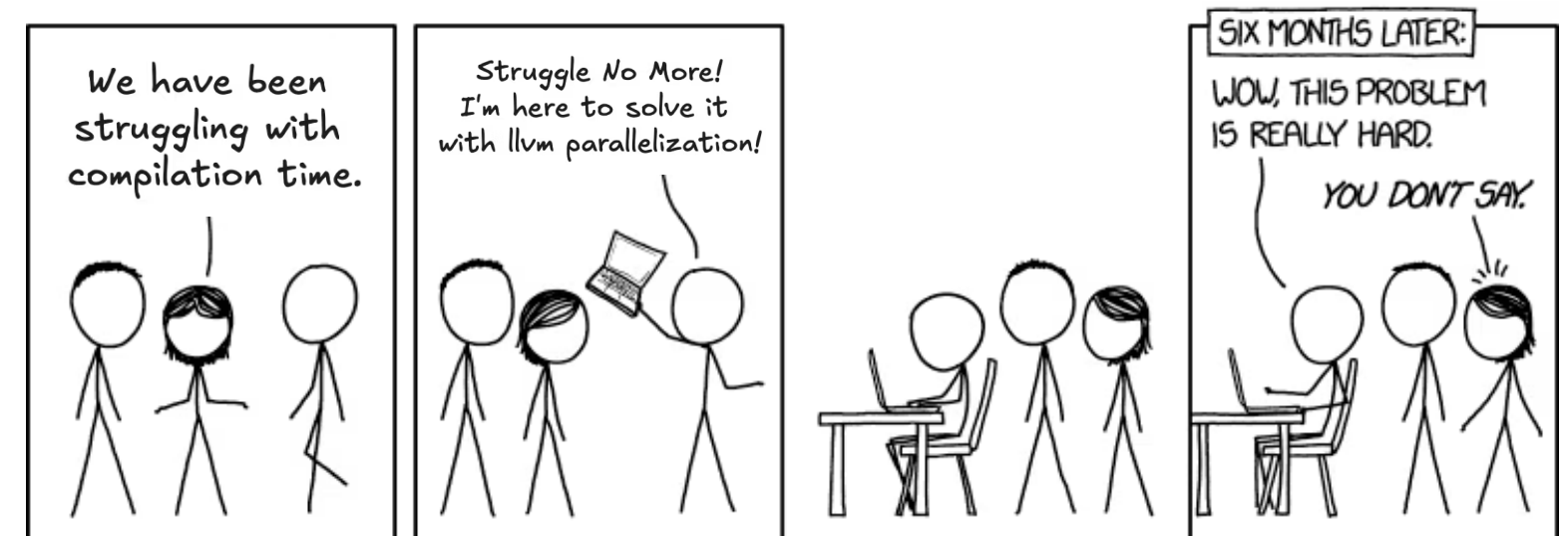
- Parallelizing LLVM compilation helps improve overall mojo compilation time.
 - Mojo program is in one compilation unit.
 - MCLink helps to keep parallel llvm compilation with minimum side-effect.
 - Asynchronous Runtime for threading and dispatch parallel compilation tasks.
 - Build system (Bazel) be aware of mojo compilation threading, compiler server?
- Limitations
 - Only tested for X86 and AArch64.
 - Not applicable if codegen pipeline passes are inter-procedural, e.g. NVPTX backend.
 - Have to use some C++ tricks to work off-tree.

- We'd like to upstream this

- llvm-module-splitter [#121543](#)
 - MCLinker [#132989](#)

- This works, but is this a good idea? 🙄

- Friend classes? Bytecode support for MIR? Make LLVM thread-safe? ThinLTO?



PC: [xkcd - Here to Help](#)

Questions

Acknowledgement:
The Mojo Language Team at Modular

